LANDS AND FORESTS
TECHNICAL NOTE

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1990 BLACK BEAR HARVEST

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The 1990 bear hunting season was from September 15 until October 30 in all counties. A five-day primitive bear hunt was organized in the Tobeatic Wildlife Management Area from October 22–27.

In 1990, 245 residents purchased bear hunting licenses, compared to 146 in 1989. Non-resident license sales were down from 25 in 1989 to 13 in 1990.

A kill of 91 bears by residents and 8 by non-residents is calculated from the return of 105 resident and 9 non-resident report cards. Table 1 compares hunting effort and kill by county.

Fifty-six of 111 persons licensed to snare bears returned report cards. A total of 1,853 snare nights is calculated from these returns for a snaring harvest of 57 bears, the same number calculated for snaring in 1989. Table 2 compares the snaring effort and harvest by county.

In 1990 staff reported 98 investigations of bear complaints. Sixty-nine were nuisance reports; 9 involved dead bears; 14 were of sick, injured, entangled or out of place bears; and 6 were sighting reports.

Eighteen bear deaths were reported in connection with the complaints.

The 98 investigations in 1990 were up significantly from 54 in 1989. Bear deaths in 1990 were down from 23 reported last year. Perceived nuisance reports increased the most, from 33 in 1989 to 69 in 1990.

Table 3 shows the number of complaints investigated by county and the number of bear deaths recorded.

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Table 1. *Black Bear Hunting Effort and Harvest by County Nova Scotia: 1990*

County	Days		Kill							Total	
				Resident							
	Resident		Non.Res.	Firearm		Bow		Non.Res.			
	Firearm	Bow	Firearm	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Lunenburg	114	33	–	9	–	–	–	–	–	9	0
Queens	91	37	7	5	3	2	–	–	1	7	4
Shelburne	117	23	–	3	–	2	–	–	–	5	0
Yarmouth	219	23	–	10	2	–	–	–	–	10	2
Digby	58	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0	0
Annapolis	112	33	24	12	2	–	2	4	3	16	7
Kings	44	12	–	2	3	–	–	–	–	2	3
West	755	161	31	41	10	4	2	4	4	49	16
Cumberland	112	61		2	3	–	–	–	–	2	3
Colchester	30	7		–	–	–	–	–	–	0	0
Pictou	23	19		–	–	–	–	–	–	0	0
Antigonish	33	7		7	4	2	–	–	–	9	4
Guysborough	54	–		–	–	–	–	–	–	0	0
Halifax	86	28		–	–	–	3	–	–	0	3
Hants	61	–		5	–	–	–	–	–	5	0
East	399	122		14	7	2	3	0	0	16	10
Inverness	–	–								0	0
Victoria	77	16		–	6	2	–	–	–	2	6
Cape Breton	–	–								0	0
Richmond	–	–								0	0
C.B. Island	77	16		0	6	2	0	0	0	2	6
Province	1,231	299		55	23	8	5	4	4	67	32

Table 2. *Black Bear Snaring Effort and Harvest by County Nova Scotia: 1990*

County	Snares Set	Snare Nights	Kill		
			Male	Female	Total
Lunenburg	49	238	8	4	12
Queens	8	40	2		2
Shelburne	2	16			0
Yarmouth	16	95	5		5
Digby	22	212	2	2	4
Annapolis	32	258	2	2	4
Kings	4	55			
West	133	914	19	8	27
Cumberland	40	293	4	1	5
Colchester	12	91	4		4
Pictou	14	91	4	1	5
Antigonish	10	63	1		1
Guysborough	0	–			
Halifax	31	260	7	4	11
Hants	4	36			
East	111	834	20	6	26
Inverness	10	105	4		
Victoria	0				
Cape Breton	0				
Richmond	0				
Cape Breton Island	10	105	4		4
Province	254	1,853	43	14	57

Table 3. *Number of Bear Investigations by County, and Number of Resultant Bear Deaths by Sex Nova Scotia: 1990*

County	Investigations	Bear Deaths			
		Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Lunenburg	5				0
Queens	9	2			2
Shelburne	8		2		2
Yarmouth	5		2	1	3
Digby	0				0
Annapolis	3	1		1	2
Kings	7				0
West	37	3	4	2	9
Cumberland	5			1	1
Colchester	2				0
Pictou	12	2	1		3
Antigonish	0				0
Guysborough	1				0
Halifax	24	1	1	1	3
Hants	3				0
East	47	3	2	2	7
Inverness	4				0
Victoria	9	1		1	2
Cape Breton	1				0
Richmond	0				0
Cape Breton Island	14	1		1	2
Province	98	7	6	5	18